

August 6, 2009

Wisconsin receives \$1.6 million in education funding to support students and families who are homeless.

Wisconsin school districts are receiving \$904,290 in homeless funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and \$688,200 through the regular Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program.

ARRA EHCY Grants

In Wisconsin, one of the key purposes the EHCY ARRA money will be used is to support schools which have never received EHCY funding in the past. ARRA grant funds are for the 2009-10 school year, but districts can obligate ARRA funds through September 30, 2011.

The fourteen new districts received ARRA EHCY grant funds are:

Beloit	\$54,000
Central City Cyber School	\$30,000
Howard-Suamico	\$28,500
Hudson	\$10,000
Mauston	\$32,000
Norway J7	\$24,000
Rice Lake	\$22,500
Sauk Prairie	\$37,575
Sheboygan	\$39,208
Stevens Point	\$22,005
Tomahawk	\$14,250
Unity	\$34,000
Waukesha	\$34,000
Wisconsin Dells	\$38,000

Three-Year EHCY Grants

Sixteen Wisconsin districts have received a Three-Year EHCY grant. Ten of these districts also received ARRA funds to be used for the 2009-10 school year. Districts can obligate ARRA funds through September 30, 2011.

The sixteen three-year EHCY grant-funded districts are:

Appleton	Standard EHCY grant - \$58,000
	ARRA grant - \$42,000

Ashwaubenon	Standard EHCY grant - \$12,450
Eau Claire	Standard EHCY grant - \$62,250
Green Bay	Standard EHCY grant - \$57,625 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Hayward	Standard EHCY grant - \$12,375
Janesville	Standard EHCY grant - \$58,000 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Kenosha	Standard EHCY grant - \$56,125 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Madison	Standard EHCY grant - \$58,000 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Middleton	Standard EHCY grant - \$7,600 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Milwaukee	Standard EHCY grant - \$134,400 ARRA grant - \$106,252
Platteville	Standard EHCY grant - \$12,300
Racine	Standard EHCY grant - \$56,875 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Superior	Standard EHCY grant - \$19,750 ARRA grant - \$42,000
Tomah	Standard EHCY grant - \$12,225
West Allis – West Milwaukee	Standard EHCY grant - \$12,225
Wisconsin Rapids	Standard EHCY grant - \$58,000 ARRA grant - \$42,000

In 2007-08, Wisconsin public school districts identified 9,331 students as homeless. Since 2003-04, the first year of annual data collection, the number of homeless students has increased 74 percent. Additionally, schools in all areas of the state are working with families and students who have lost their homes due to foreclosures and the economic recession.

The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program's major responsibility is to implement the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act. Homeless children and unaccompanied youth must have access to public school educational programs and services that allow them to meet the same challenging state academic standards to which all students are held.

Historically, Wisconsin has been able to fund no more than 12 districts with EHCY grant funds. Combining both ARRA and regular EHCY grant funds, a total of 30 Wisconsin districts will receive EHCY grant funds, a new funding record for Wisconsin districts.

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Contact Linda Hurst at (608) 266-5184, linda.hurst@dpi.wi.gov for additional information regarding preschool children who may be experiencing homelessness.

For more information on the EHCY Program, go to <http://dpi.wi.gov/homeless/>.